

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In an image forming apparatus which uses a semiconductor laser as a light source, a semiconductor laser is controlled by adjustment of an image write-in clock, and a highly accurate scanning position alignment is performed with a simple structure. An optical unit scans a rotational photo conductor by a laser light output by a semiconductor laser. A photodetector detects the laser light output by the semiconductor laser at a predetermined position. An electrostatic latent image is formed by scanning the rotational photo conductor based on the laser light detected by the photodetector. By dividing a clock output from a high-frequency clock generation circuit, an image clock which is synchronized with the output of the photodetector is generated, and the phase of the image clock is changed.